

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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CHARACTERISTICS FOR INJURIES AND ILLNESSES REQUIRING DAYS AWAY FROM WORK IN PRIVATE INDUSTRY, WASHINGTON, DC 2016

Washington – The District of Columbia’s Annual Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses for 2016 showed that there were 2,840 work-related injury and illness cases reported in private industry that required days away from work. Sprains, strains, and tears accounted for approximately 31 percent of these cases and were the most frequent type of injury or illness. Food preparation and serving related occupations was the major occupational group with the most cases with days away from work due to injury and illness and made up 420 or 15 percent of the cases, followed by the buildings and grounds cleaning and maintenance occupations group with 350 cases (12 percent). (See Chart 1)

Case Characteristic Highlights

- The most frequent nature of work-related injury or illness cases involving days away from work was sprains, strains and tears (880 cases); other frequently reported injuries were soreness and pain (760), bruises and contusions (340 cases) and cuts, lacerations and punctures (290 cases).
- The part of the body that was most frequently affected by injuries and illnesses was upper extremities (780) which includes the shoulder, arm, wrist and hand and accounted for 27 percent of all days away from work cases. Lower extremities (700), which includes the leg, knee, ankle, and foot accounted for 25 percent of all days away from work cases and the trunk (660), which includes the back accounted for 23 percent of all days away from work cases.
- Floors, walkways, ground surfaces (560) was the most frequent source of injury, accounting for 20 percent of all sources.
- Overexertion and bodily reaction with 810 cases was the most frequent event followed by falls, slips and trips. Of the 800 cases in the falls, slips and trips event category, the majority were fall on the same level (570 cases). The next largest event category was contact with object or equipment which accounted for 770 cases.

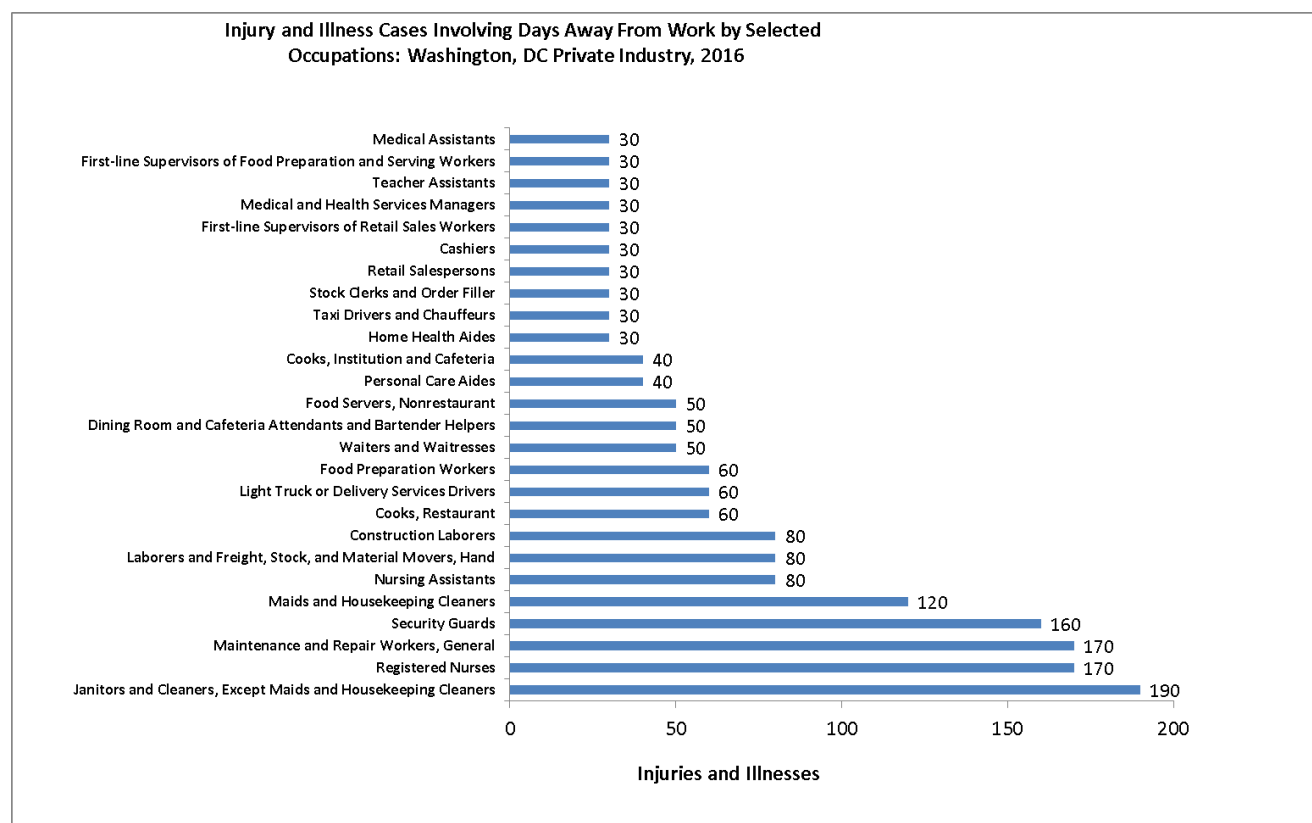
Demographic Highlights

- Men (1,400 cases) and women (1390 cases) each represented forty-nine percent of the occupational injuries and illnesses that resulted in days away from work in 2016.
- Workers in the age range of 45-54 years accounted for 28 percent or 800 cases.
- Thirty-five percent of the occupational injuries and illnesses cases that reported

race were to Black or African American workers (1,000 cases).

- Occupational injuries and illnesses that resulted in days away from work were most frequently reported for employees with more than five years of service with their employer (1,100), followed by workers with one to five years of service (920) .
- Of the injuries and illnesses with days away from work that reported the time of incident, the hours from 8:01 AM to 12:00 PM were the most frequent and accounted for 790 incidents.
- Of the injuries and illnesses with days away from work that reported hours on the job before the event occurred, employees on the job for four to six hours were the most frequent at 530 cases.
- Wednesday (550 cases), Monday (500 cases), Tuesday (480 cases) and Friday (440) were the days of the week when most of the injuries and illnesses involving days away from work occurred.

Chart 1



Note: Because of the rounding and data exclusion of non-classifiable responses, data may not sum to the totals.

Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in cooperation with the District of Columbia.

¹ Days-away-from-work cases include those that result in days away from work with or without job transfer or restriction.

² Excludes farms with fewer than 11 employees.

³ Data for mining (Sector 21 in the North American Industry Classification System) include establishments not governed by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) rules and reporting, such as those in oil and gas extraction and related support activities. Data for mining operators in coal, metal, and nonmetal mining are provided to BLS by the Mine Safety and Health Administration, U.S. Department of Labor. Independent mining contractors are excluded from the coal, metal, and nonmetal mining industries. These data do not

reflect the changes the Occupational Safety and Health Administration made to its recordkeeping requirements effective January 1, 2002:

therefore estimates for these industries are not comparable to estimates in other industries.

⁴ Data for employers in rail transportation are provided to BLS by the Federal Railroad Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation. These data do not reflect the changes the Occupational Safety and Health Administration made to its recordkeeping requirements effective January 1, 2002; therefore estimates for these industries are not comparable to estimates in other industries.

NOTE: Dashes indicate data that are not available. Because of rounding and data exclusion of nonclassifiable responses, data may not sum to the totals.

SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses in cooperation with participating state agencies, October 11, 2017

Additional Statewide Information

For detailed statistical tables on case and demographic data from the Washington, DC Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses for 2016, go to the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics website: <http://www.bls.gov/iif/oshstate.htm#DC>. In addition, any information can be requested by contacting Dr. Kimberley A. Turner at: (202) 442-9010 or via e-mail at: TurnerK@states.bls.gov.

Technical Notes

The Washington, DC Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses was conducted by the D.C. Department of Health in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

For technical information and definitions for the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses, please go to the BLS Handbook of Methods on the BLS website at: www.bls.gov/opub/hom/soii/pdf/soii.pdf.